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12 June 1956

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EAST GERMANY/VP-SKE miscellaneous military research projects

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Miscellaneous research projects being carried on by the VP-SKE include a torpedo drive test chamber, stabilizer, parallax computer, an AUFSCLAGELIDEXAMERA, a 2 meter range finder, a remote control for smoke screen blowers and a single blindlamp. Rockets were discussed in connection with FALKE-C class destroyer escorts. 1.5 meter range finder has been in use in VP-SKE since 1954.

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1. Torpedo-drive test chamber.

In late 1955, VP-SKE ordered Herr WITTMANN of I.9.W. ABTEILUNG DRESDEN to design and develop a "Torpedoversuchskammer". WITTMANN, at first refused to do so by pretending he did not have the time. Finally he accepted the order. It is believed WITTMANN had little personal interest in this research project. Purpose of the chamber was to test the power of torpedo drives ("Torpedeantriebe"). In the chamber the ~~drum~~ drive mechanism of a torpedo is brought to a standstill while running at full speed and its power measured simultaneously. This research project was not on the 1956 research project list of VP-SKE, but will probably appear on the 1957-list, most likely under a covername.

2. Raketen Rockets and rocket launchers.

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When designing BALKE C-class destroyer - escorts leading VP-SEE shipbuilding personalities unofficially discussed the problem of equipping this class with conventional guns or with rocket launchers. The outcome of these aforementioned discussions is not known.

3. "Richtkreisel".

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It is assumed that it was to be some kind of a stabilizer. The problem of stabilizers had, for instance, been discussed in connection with so-called "Messplattformen" (see paragraph 6, below "Two-meter range finder"). None of the other 1956 VP-SEE research projects concerned stabilizers. It was not known which SOVZONE plant will eventually design and build the "Richtkreisel". As yet no research work has begun. RFT FUNKWERK KÖPENICK will not work on this project. This research project was among those ordered and paid for by ZENTRALAMT FUER FORSCHUNG & ENTWICKLUNG BEI DER STAATLICHEN PLANCKOMMISSION on behalf of VP-SEE. 100,000 East DM had been approved for 1956-work on the project.

4. "Parallaxrechengeraete" types WIEGEL & ILTIS.

Development of these sets was initiated by KVP. VP-SEE only indicated their interest and, hence, will get all data in order to establish whether or not the sets could be of any use to them. The basis and principles on which the sets are to operate, are not known. They will probably be designed, developed, and built by VITO at BERLIN. Research order has not yet been placed. This amplifies information in enclosure 5 to ref (a).

5. "Aufschlageldekamera".

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the X "camera" will be designed, developed, and built by ZEISS Works at JENA. This research project was among those ordered and paid for by AMT FUER TECHNIK on behalf of VP-SEE.

6. Two-meter range finder. (E-messgerät 2 m").

This was to be a stationary set mounted on a so-called "Messplattform" (see paragraph 3). Stabilization was mentioned in connection with this platform. The set was being designed and developed by ZEISS Works at JENA which plant will most likely also build it. The research project was among those ordered and paid for by AMT FUER TECHNIK on behalf of VP-SEE.

7. 1.5-meter range finder.

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In a connection with above 2-meter range finder, the 1.5-meter range finder in use with VP-SEE, assumed to be a portable set. It had been designed and developed and was being built by VEB PRÄZISIONSWERK FRIEDRICH at FREIBERG. It has been in VP-SEE use since 1954 or probably ~~earlier~~ earlier. It is the only range finder

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VP-SKE has so far. In early 1956, Russian Navy Representatives asked for 1 such set for unknown reasons.

8. Remote-control for smoke-screen blowers ("Fernauslösung der M-Anlage").

Full name of above "M-Anlage" was "Nebelanlage". Purpose of the remote-control was to set in operation the smoke-screen blowers from remote stations aboard ship e.g. the conning bridge. It was planned to have it work electrically as previous tests with compressed air turned out negatively. The device had been designed and developed by I.S.M. at WOLGAST when the late Herr SCHLACK was still there. Prototype gear is now being built by PHENIX Shipyard at WOLGAST. The research project was among those ordered and paid for by ZENTRALNET on behalf of VP-SKE. No funds were approved for 1956-work on the project which was already 80 to 90% completed at end of 1955.

9. "Lichtsprachgerät".

Above name had been selected for a simple blinklamp. It had been designed and developed for KVP and VP-SKE (KVP had priority for having brought in the research order) by RPT FUNKWERK RADENBURG at RADENBURG during recent years. This plant has also built the set since then.

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